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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: P. Bonutti et al.

Application No.: To be Assigned
(CIP of App No. 10/779,978)

Filed: Herewith

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR SECURING BODY TISSUE

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Attorney Docket No.: 782-A04-026

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of C.F.R. § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information, which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

A revised Form PTO/SB/08 listing all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration is enclosed. Copies of the listed U.S. Patents and Published U.S. Patent applications are not being submitted pursuant to the USPTO's waiver of the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are: (a) copies of cited articles; and (b) copy of the cited Japanese reference.

No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be prior art, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) before the latter of three months after the U.S. patent application filing date or the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: MARCH 9, 2004



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete If Known	
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	782-A04-026
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY
AA	3,513,848			Winston et al.	05-26-70
AB	3,657,056			Wintson et al.	04-18-72
AC	4,662,068			Polonsky	05-05-87
AD	5,383,883			Wilk et al.	01-24-95
AE	5,413,585			Pagedas	05-09-95
AF	5,836,897			Sakural et al.	11-17-98
AG	5,879,372			Bartlett	03-09-99
AH	5,891,166			Schervinsky	04-06-99
AI	5,906,625			Bito et al.	05-25-99
AJ	5,964,765			Fenton, Jr., et al.	10-12-99
AK	5,993,477			Valitekunas et al.	11-30-99
AL	6,010,525			Bonutti et al.	01-04-00
AM	6,066,151			Miyawaki et al.	05-23-00
AN	6,099,537			Sugai et al.	08-08-00
AO	6,106,545			Egan	08-22-00
AP	6,174,324			Egan et al.	01-16-01
AQ	6,432,115			Mollenaver et al.	08-13-02
AR	6,409,742			Fenton	06-25-02
Examiner				Date Considered	

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				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	P. Bonutti
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	782-A04-026
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY
BA		8-140982	JP		1996
OTHER REFERENCES - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
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